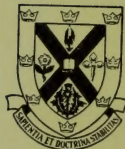




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# DOUGLAS LIBRARY



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KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA

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*Queen's University at Kingston*

# MILTON

## PAST AND PRESENT

1857-1907

"Let the great world spin for ever  
Down the ringing groves of change."

—LOCKSLEY HALL.

"Comparisons are odorous."

—SHAKESPEARE, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Act iii., sc. 5.





# The Town of Milton

1857—1907



THE Town of Milton, Ontario, was incorporated in 1857. It, this year, celebrates its Jubilee of that important event.

There were strenuous struggles between Oakville and Milton to capture the coveted position of COUNTY TOWN. Milton, probably from its central position in the county, won the day, and great were the rejoicings of its citizens. James Beaty, proprietor of the Toronto "Leader," W. C. Beaty, of Omagh, and Sir Francis Hincks, were deeply and actively interested in making Milton the County seat. And to their efforts was largely due the success of the struggle in Milton's interests.

The history of Milton goes back to 1822, when Mr. Jasper Martin built his grist mill and saw mill. A small hamlet grew up around these buildings, and was called Martin's Mills. Settlers had come into the neighborhood as early as 1818, and Martin's Mills were a great boon to them. Mr. Martin died January 16th, 1833, at the early age of thirty-six. The present grist mill, a substantial stone structure, was built in 1856 by his sons, and still remains in possession.

of the family. It has a capacity of 100 barrels of flour a day. The water-power is furnished by a creek called the Sixteen, which comes from a union of springs flowing from the limestone rocks of the "mountain" near by, and, after passing through the town, finds its exit in Lake Ontario at Oakville. The course of this stream through Milton has been changed in order to make it serve the town's interests better. Originally it crossed Main Street three times within a short distance, and the straightening of its bed was a necessity.

The Town of Milton is located on lots 13 and 14 in the 2nd Concession of Trafalgar (new survey), and is about seven-eighths of a mile square. The country around is, for the most part, level; but on the west side, at a distance of less than two miles, is an elevation popularly called "The Mountain." This mountain is a portion of the height of land which, adjoining Flamboro' Heights, forms the table land extending, and gradually ascending, to the north. The view from the mountain top is very fine, extending many miles. It is from springs flowing out of this mountain that the water supply for the town is obtained.

The country round about was well wooded, and beautiful pines and the best of hardwood timber were cut down and burnt in log heaps to clear the land. The ashes were turned into potash and produced a good return financially.

In 1837-38 the population of Martin's Mills was about 100. It was somewhat about this time that a public meeting was called to consider the giving of a proper name to the incipient town. It is uncertain who first suggested the name Milton. Whether Dr. Fell, who was the schoolmaster, or George Brown, who afterwards became the first mayor, or Dr. James Cobban, the first practising physician suggested the name, or, whether, as is more probable, a consultation of these with others decided the matter. But, however it was, Milton became the accepted title.

About 1830 a small store was opened by George Brown, and afterwards, when the name was fully decided upon, a post office was opened.

The united countries of Wentworth and Halton were separated in 1853.

The first schoolhouse (a log one, afterwards replaced by a frame), was built on the banks of the Sixteen close by what is now called the Old Cemetery, and Mrs. Harrison was the first teacher. The third school building, a brick one, was situated at the East end of Main Street, the fourth, a stone building and the one now in use, is also in the East end of the town. It contains seven rooms and a High School Department. The first church was erected in 1846 by the old Kirk Presbyterians. It was a substantial frame building with a small spire, and is not now standing. The first Methodist church was built in 1852 and the present one in 1890. The present Presbyterian church was built in the same year. The first Anglican church, a frame, was erected on the eastern hill on Main Street in 1854, and replaced by a handsome stone building in 1895. The Roman Catholics of the town are served from Oakville, the church having been built in 1859.

Milton has excellent railroad accommodation. The C.P.R. main line west from Toronto and the Grand Trunk (Hamilton and North-Western Division) run through the town. The town owns its own water works and electric light plants and finds them a source of revenue. A large mileage of concrete walks has been laid. The Bank of Hamilton, the Metropolitan Bank and the Farmers' Bank give ample facilities for commercial transactions.

There is a shoe factory and a carpet factory in the town, while only a short distance up the line of the C.P.R. the Milton Pressed Brick Co. and the Toronto Pressed Brick Co. have their works. All these industries are full of activity, and give steady employment to a large number of hands. The present population is about eighteen hundred.



# Milton's Municipal Rulers.

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The first meeting of the Town Council was held 4th July, 1857. Mayor—George Brown. Reeve—John White. Councillors—John Martin, Wm. Smiley, Edward Martin, Joseph Bell, James McGuffin, William Robson, Wm. Hill. Town Clerk—P. M. McKay.

The following are the names of the Mayors :—

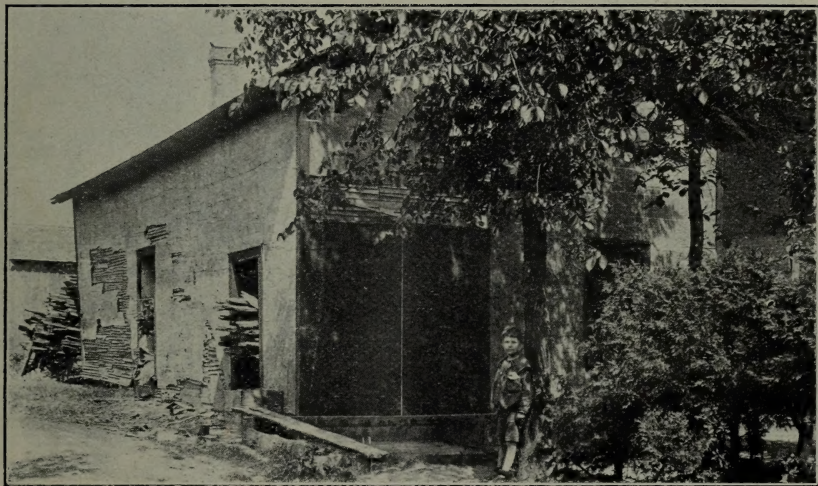
1857 —George Brown.  
1858-9—Edward Martin.  
1860-1—James McGuffin.  
1862-6—W. D. Lyon.  
1867-9—George Smith.  
1870-2—Dr. C. Freeman.  
1873-6—Dr. D. Robertson.  
1877-9—George Smith.  
1880 —D. W. Campbell.  
1881 —J. D. Matheson.  
1882-4—George Smith.

1885-7—S. Hannant.  
1888 —Dr. D. Robertson.  
1889 —J. E. Harrison.  
1890-3—S. Dice (D. W. Campbell one month in '90).  
1894-6—J. H. McCollum.  
1897-8—S. Dice.  
1899-1901—J. S. Deacon.  
1902-3—S. Dice.  
1904 —Dr. R. K. Anderson.  
1905-6—A. Higginbotham.  
1907 —Dr. R. K. Anderson.

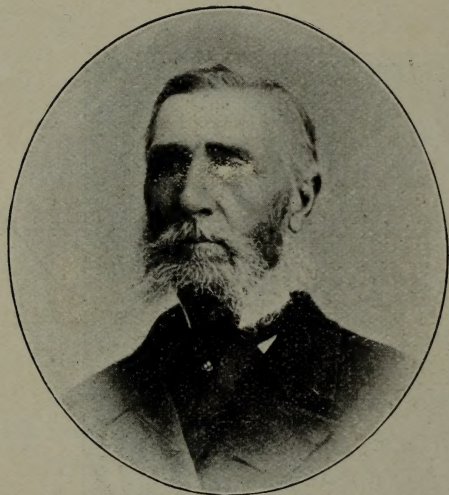
The Council of 1907 consists of Mayor Anderson, Reeve Higginbotham, Councillors J. S. Deacon, J. F. Little, James Dent, J. S. McCannell, James Blaine and James Houston.

The Reeves of Milton, in order, have been :—John White, Ransom Rowe, John White (2), John Turner, W. D. Lyon, John Thompson, John Dewar, James McGuffin, Edward Martin, James McGuffin (2), John Dewar, Jr., James McGuffin (2), W. D. Lyon (6), Duncan Dewar, W. D. Lyon, Joseph Brothers, John White, D. W. Campbell, J. E. Harrison, Dr. Freeman, John White, J. H. McCollom (4), Dr. Robertson (9), E. F. Earl in 1898, when the office was abolished till January, 1907, when A. Higginbotham was elected.





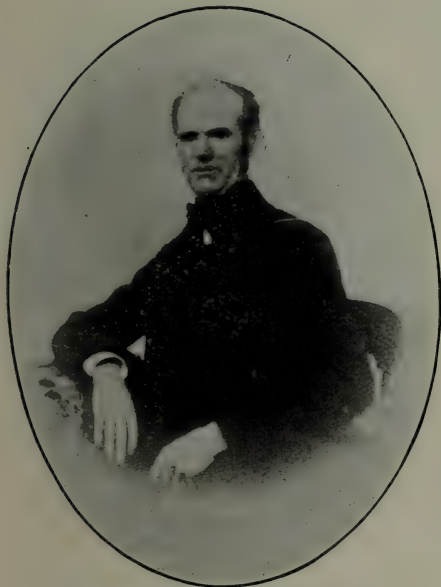
The first house built in Milton—the home of the late Joseph Martin



The late Joseph Martin, M.P.



Mrs. Joseph Martin (deceased)

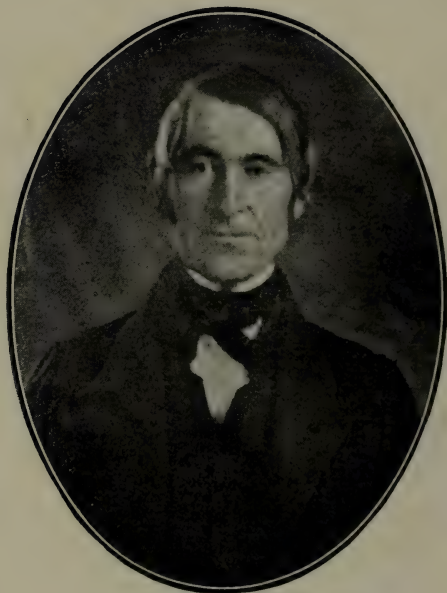


Geo. Brown (First Mayor of Milton)  
Died Aug. 4th, 1860. Aged 52 years

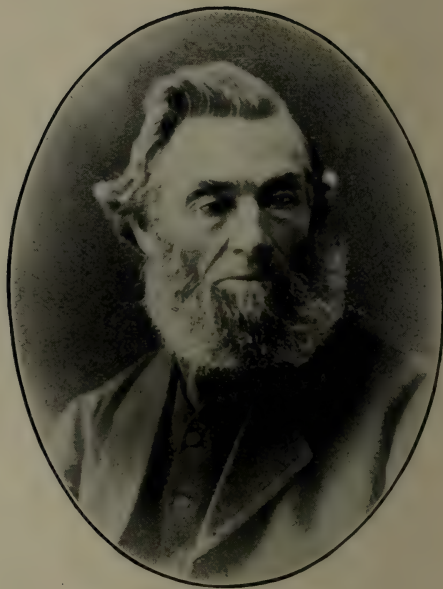


Mrs. Geo. Brown  
Died May 26th, 1863. Aged 44 years





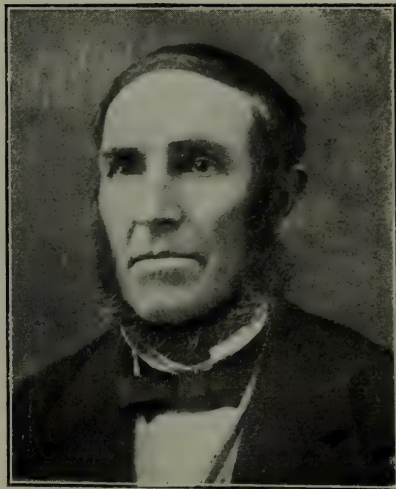
Hugh Foster  
Died Sept. 5th, 1858. Aged 64 years



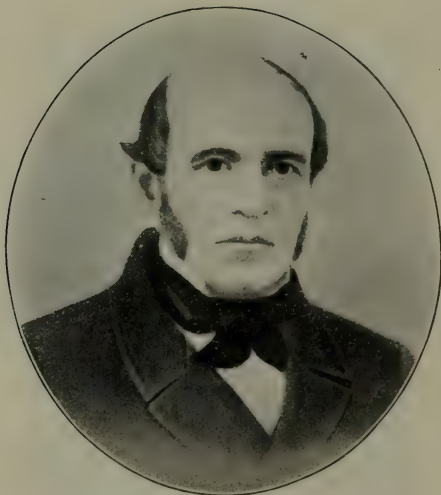
Wm. Willmott  
Died May 9th, 1875. Aged 69 years



Mr. and Mrs. Philip Walker



The late Finley McCollum  
School Teacher, afterwards County Treasurer



The late Dr. James Cobban



Levi Wilson  
First Sheriff Co. Halton





Miss Sarah Willmott



The late William Smiley



The First School House in Milton, now a dwelling



Mrs. Thomas Coates  
Died Feb. 16th, 1860. Aged 83 years



Mrs. John Willmott  
Died Feb. 1st, 1861. Aged 93 years.





The late John White, M.P.



James Rixon  
Died Feb., 1870. Aged 74 years



The late John Holgate  
Clerk of Division Court, 1857.



The late Joseph Bell



The late John Dewar  
County Crown Attorney





Benjamin Jones  
Died April 19th, 1898



Mrs. Benjamin Jones  
Died April 14th, 1889. Aged 63 years



• Mrs. Thomas Harrison  
Died June 5th, 1867. Aged 86 years



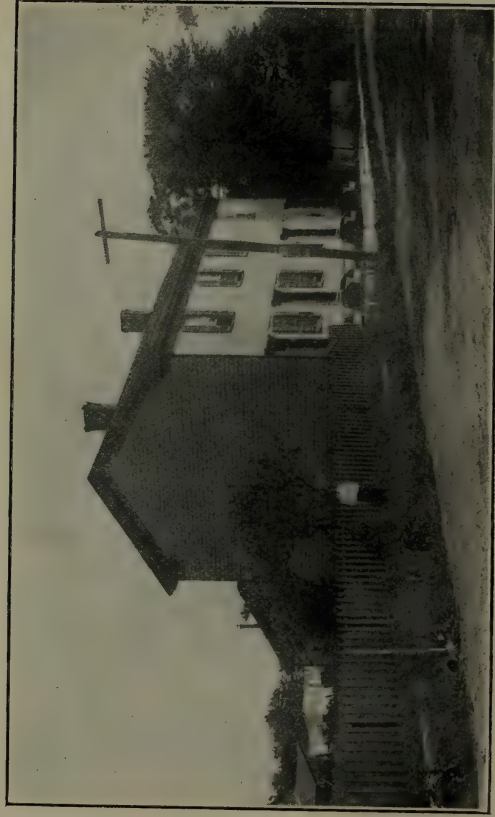
Mrs. F. Bowes  
Died May 15th, 1884. Aged 80 years



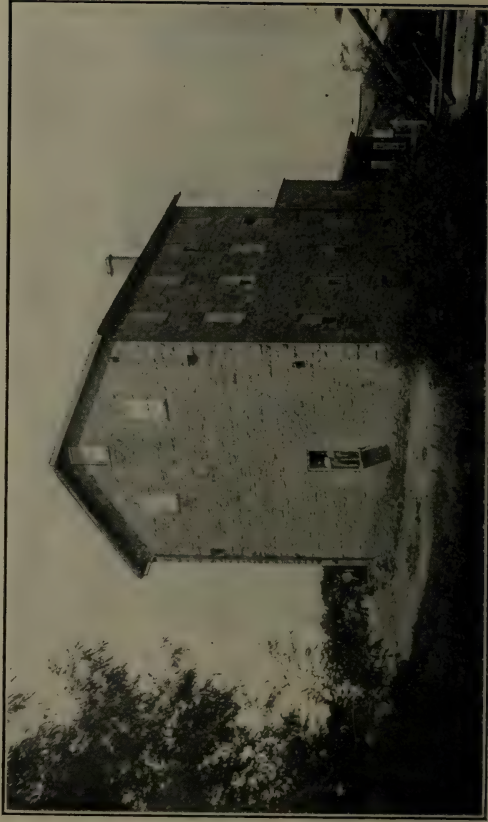
Dr. Clarkson Freeman  
Died March 4th, 1895. Aged 64 years



William Panton, Sr. (County Clerk)  
Died Oct. 1865. Aged 57 years



One of Milton's early tenement houses

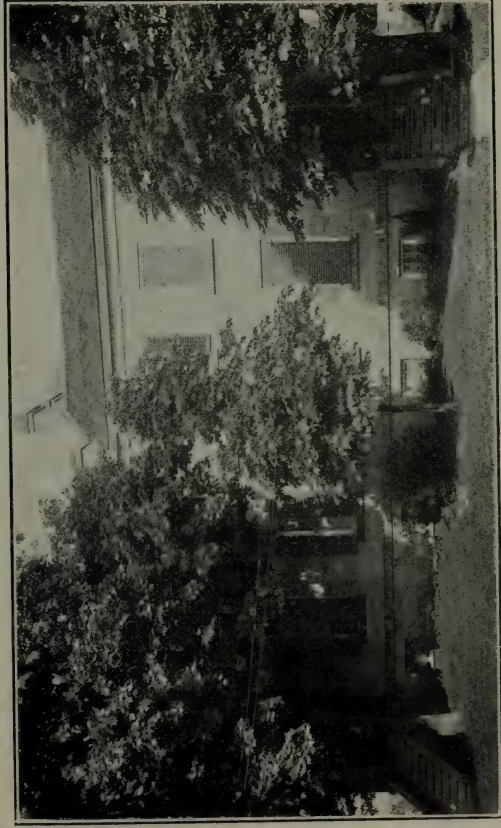


Martin's Mill. Erected 1856

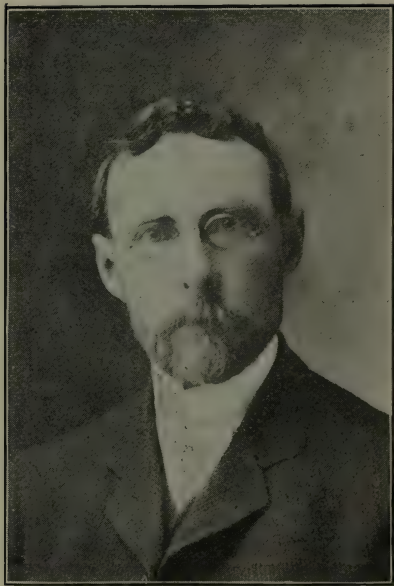




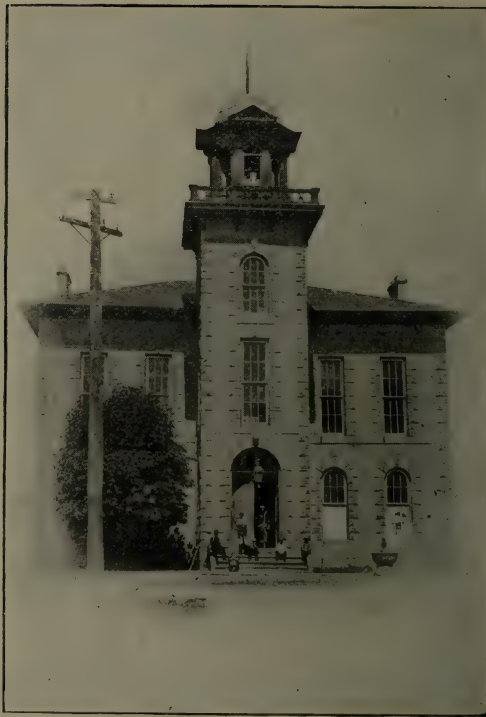
The late D. W. Campbell  
Formerly County Treasurer



Residences of J. A. Frazer and Alfred Winn  
Occupied fifty years ago by the late G. T. Bastedo, Halton's first County Attorney, and the  
late Dr. William Hume



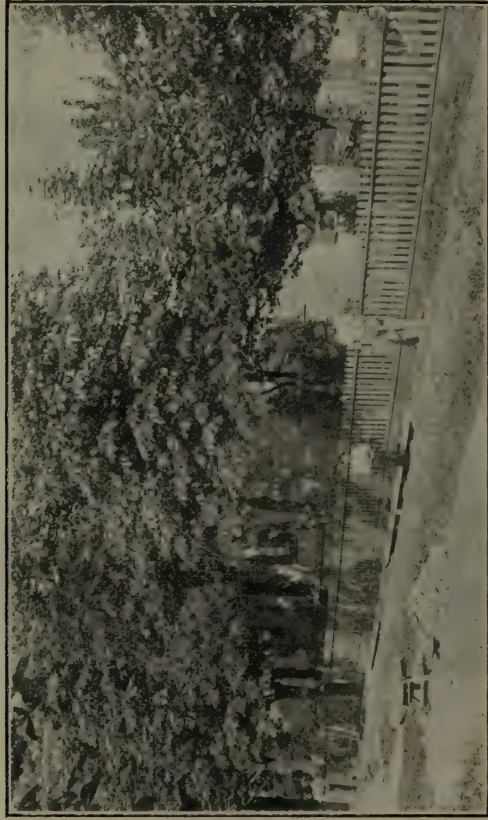
Dr. R. K. Anderson  
Mayor of Milton, 1907



Milton Town Hall, built in the early sixties



The County Buildings and Registry Office. Erected 1857—Enlarged 1878



House of late Wm. Craig, one of the early buildings



House of late Benjamin Jones





Public School, Milton



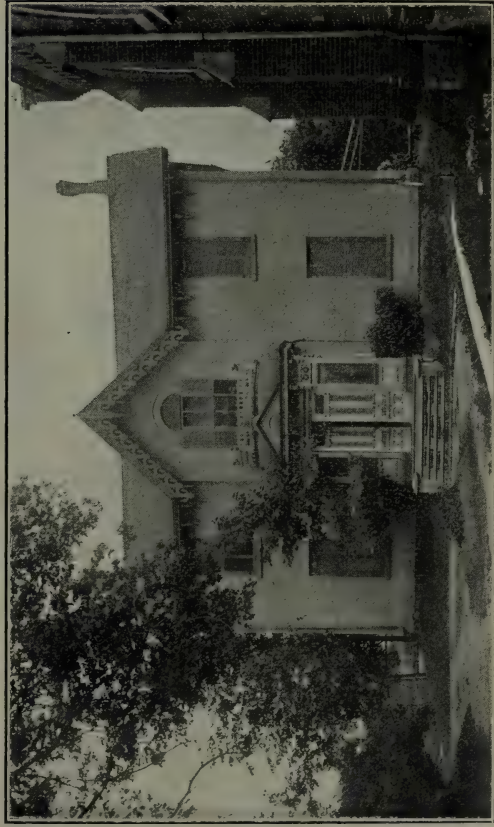
Grace Church, Milton. Built 1895  
Rev. A. J. Belt, M.A., Rector



Grace Church Rectory  
Built first as a cottage in the early fifties



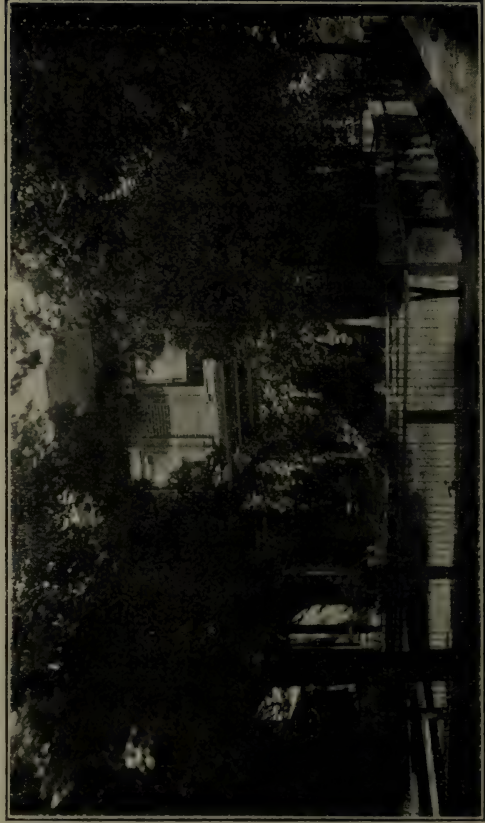
Knox Church. Erected 1890. Rev. W. M. McKay, Minister



Knox Church Manse



Methodist Church. Erected 1890. Rev. C. T. Bennett, B.A., Minister

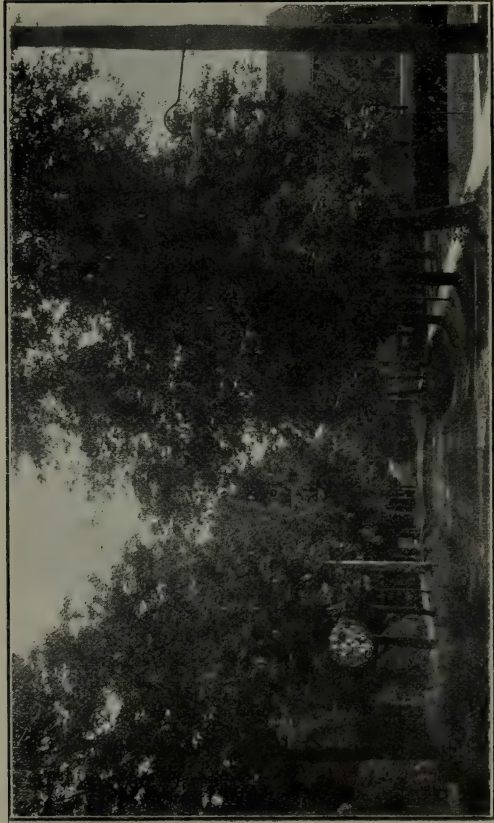


Methodist Parsonage

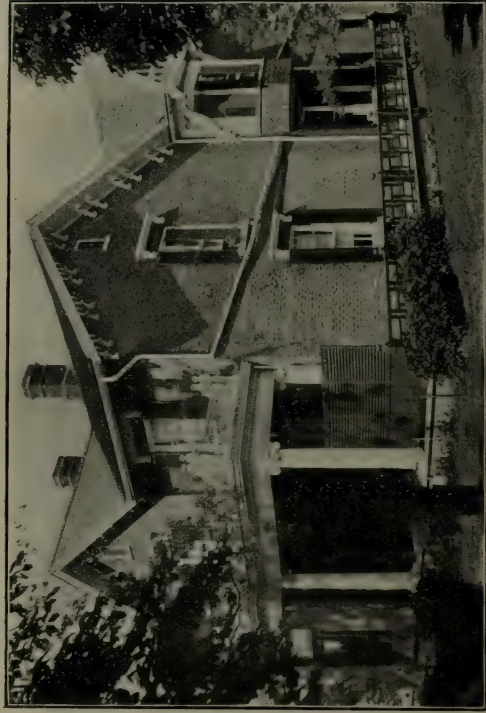




St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church. Built 1859  
Rev. Father O'Reilly, Pastor



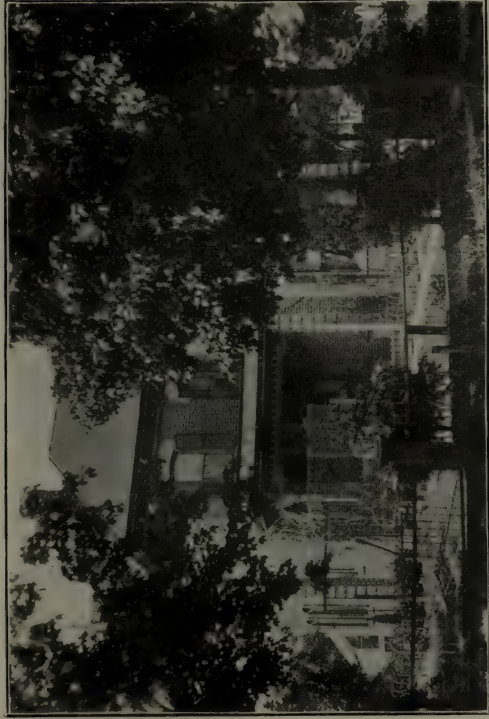
Victoria Avenue, Milton



Residence of His Honor Judge Gorham



Residence of A. Higginbotham, Reeve of Milton, 1907



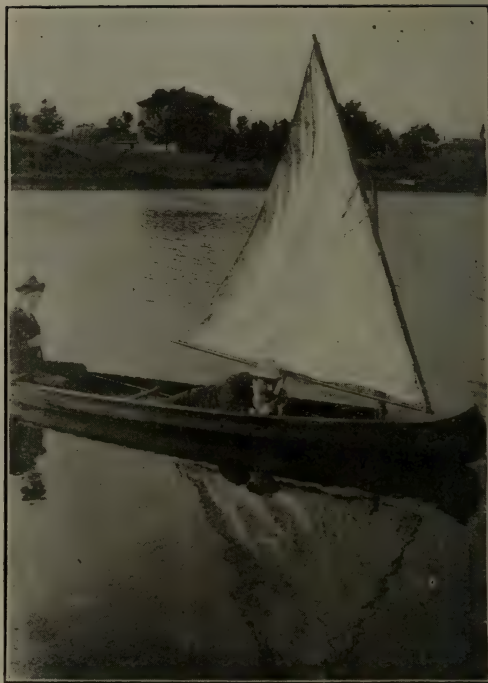
Residence of Sheriff Clements



Residence of Dr. H. A. McColl

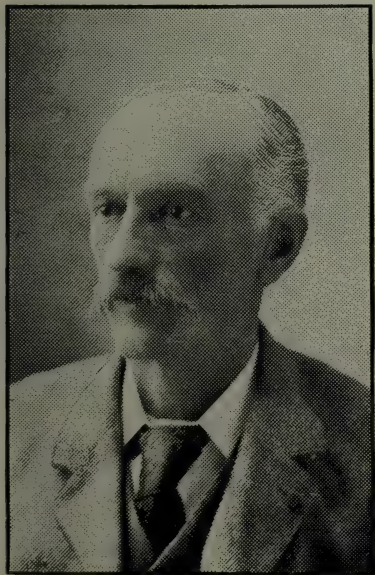


Thos. McDowell  
One of the earliest residents of Milton

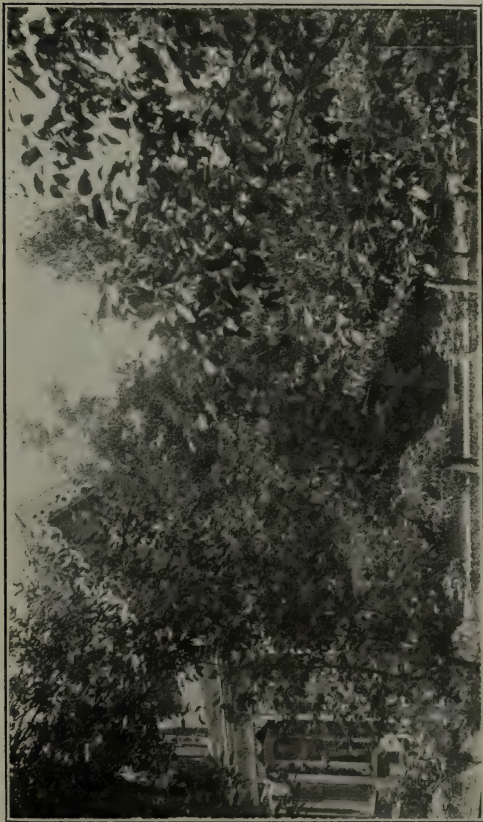


Skiff Sailing on the Pond

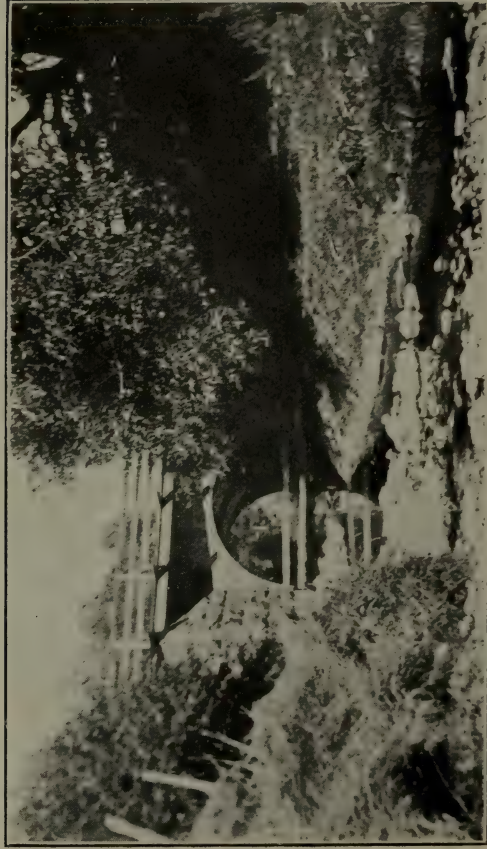




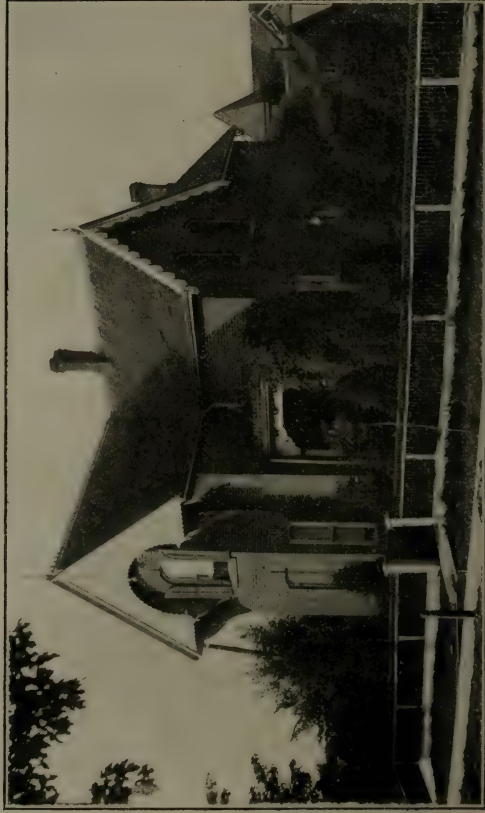
William Panton, Jr.  
County Clerk since 1865



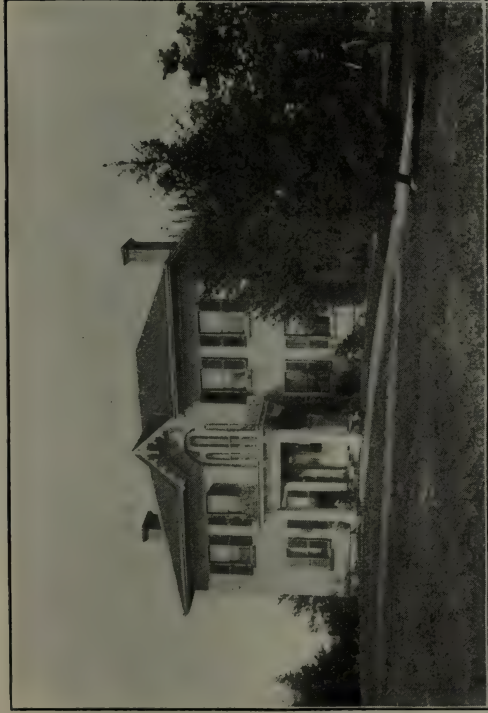
Residence of William Panton



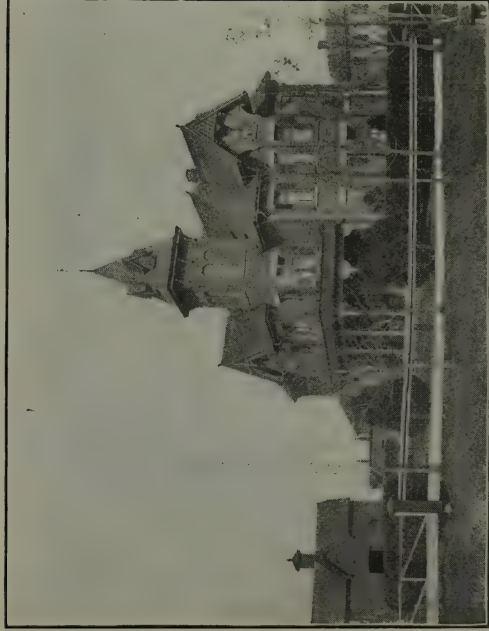
Martin Street Bridge



Residence of Dr. R. K. Anderson, Mayor of Milton, 1907

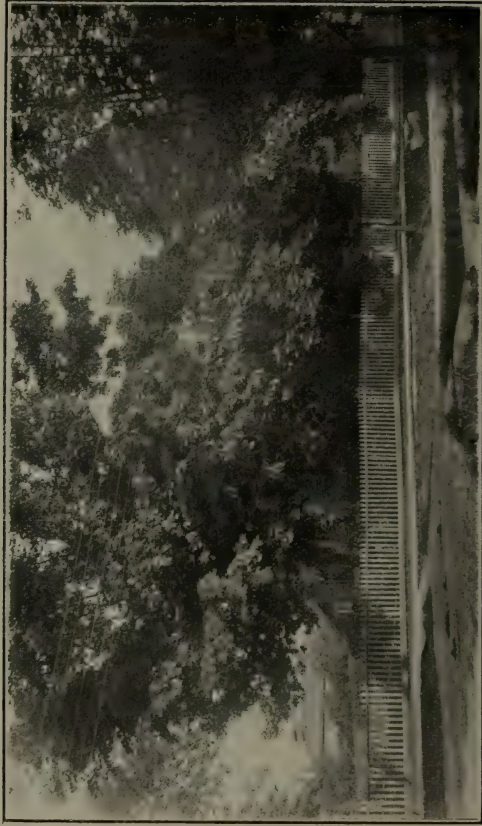


Residence of J. S. McCannell  
Manager of Milton Pressed Brick Co.



Residence of C. J. Lewis  
Proprietor Toronto Pressed BrickCo's Works, Milton





Residence of Duncan Dewar



Residence of George Andrew, County Treasurer





Residence of Dr. M. E. Gowland



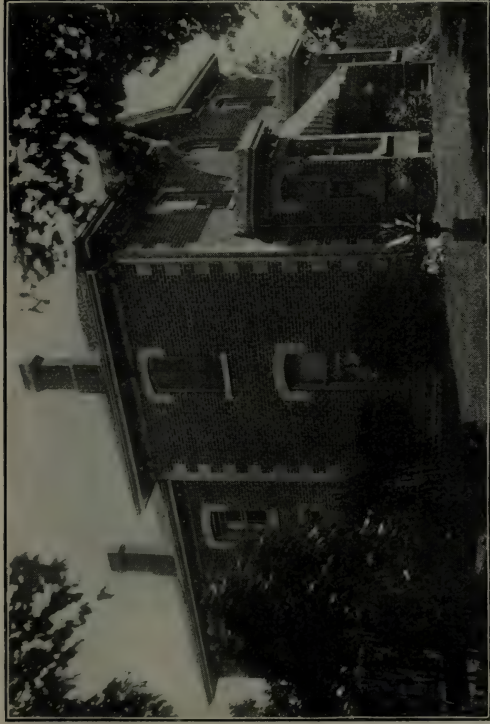
Residence of C. W. Martin



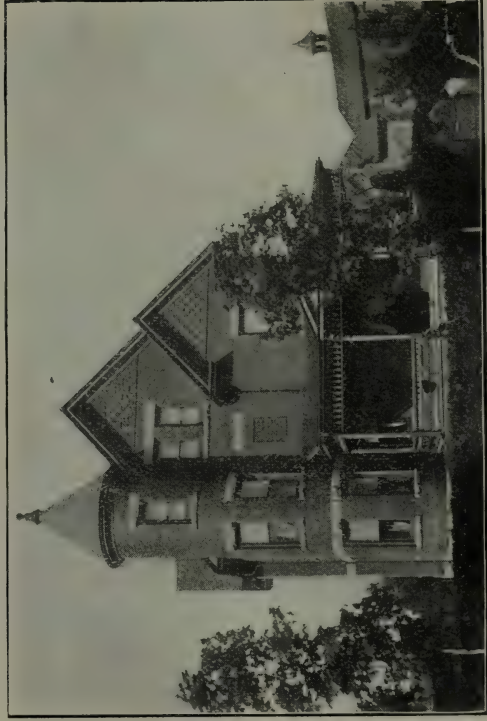
The late Dr. Freeman's old residence



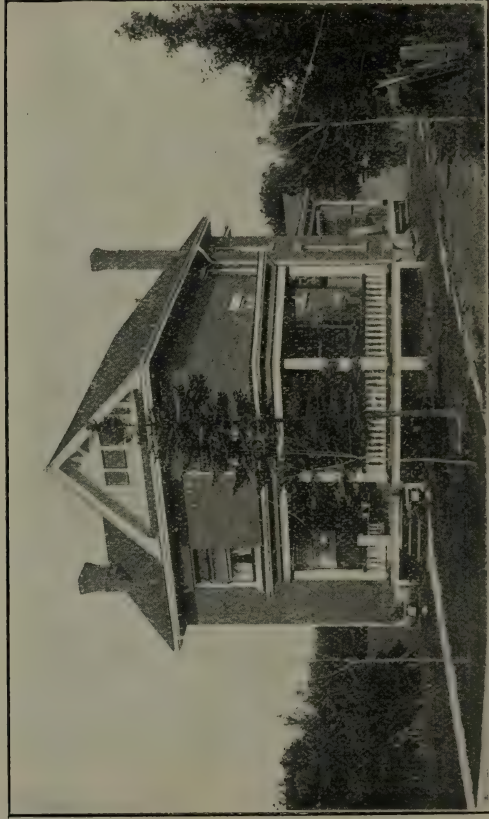
Residence of J. S. Deacon  
Public School Inspector



Residence of James Hollinrake



Residence of R. L. Hewstreet

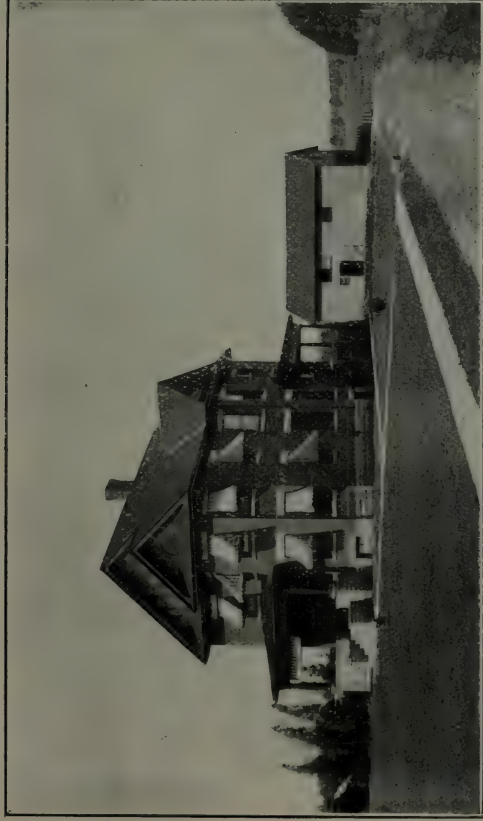


Residence of T. D. Hume

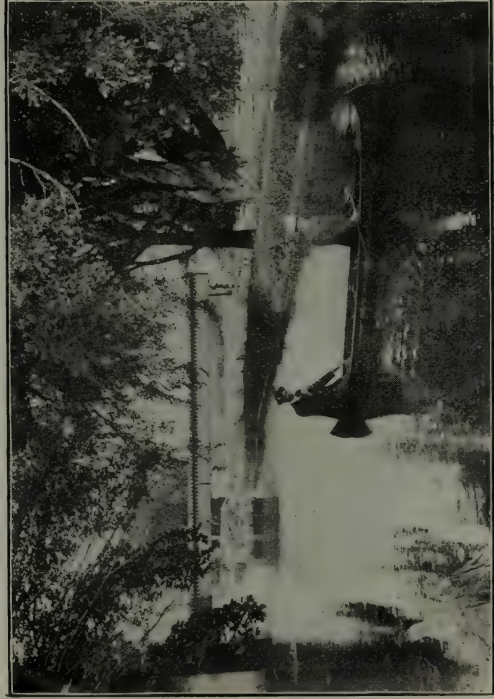


Residence of James Houston  
A Member of the Town Council

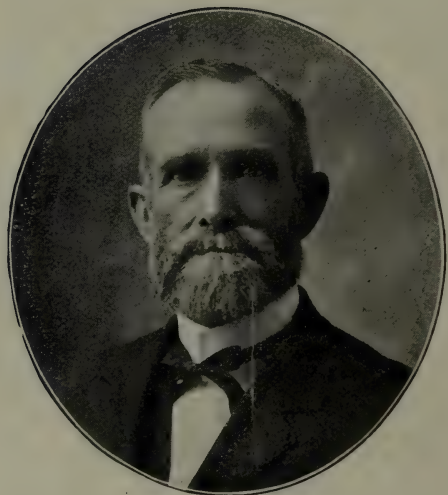




Residence of Donald Robertson



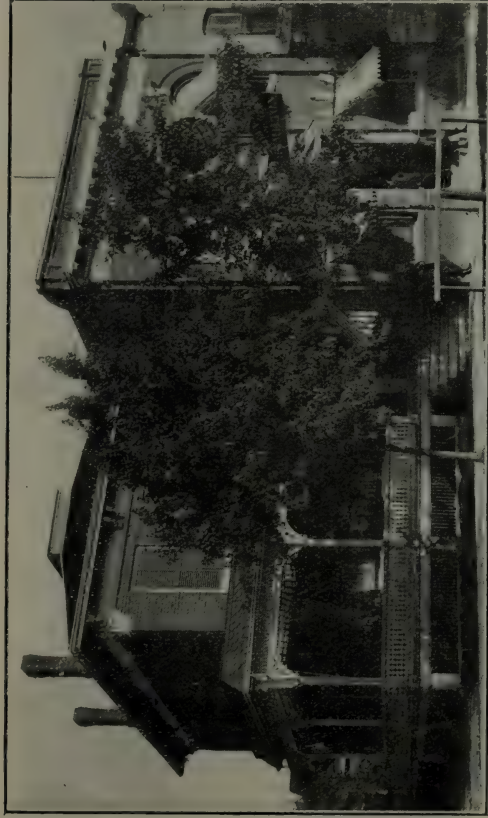
Canoeing on the Pond



Samuel Dice, J.P.  
Mayor of Milton for several years.



Milton's Electric Light Power House



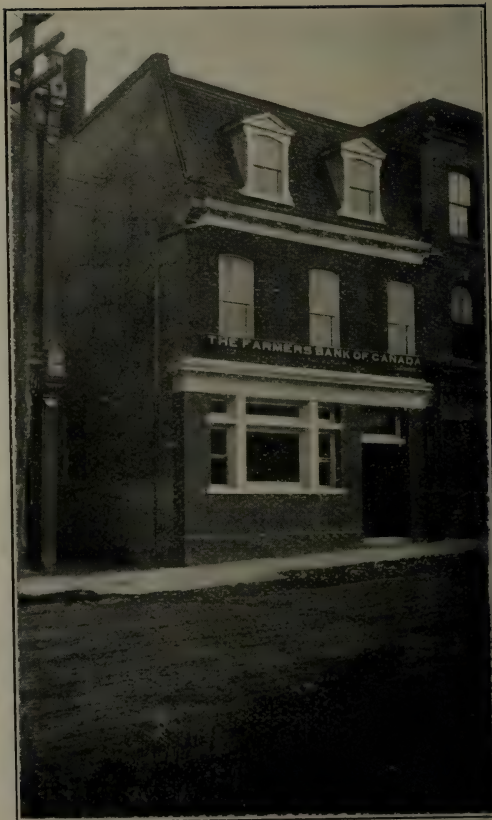
Bank of Hamilton and residence of H. P. Wanzer, Manager



Little's Block

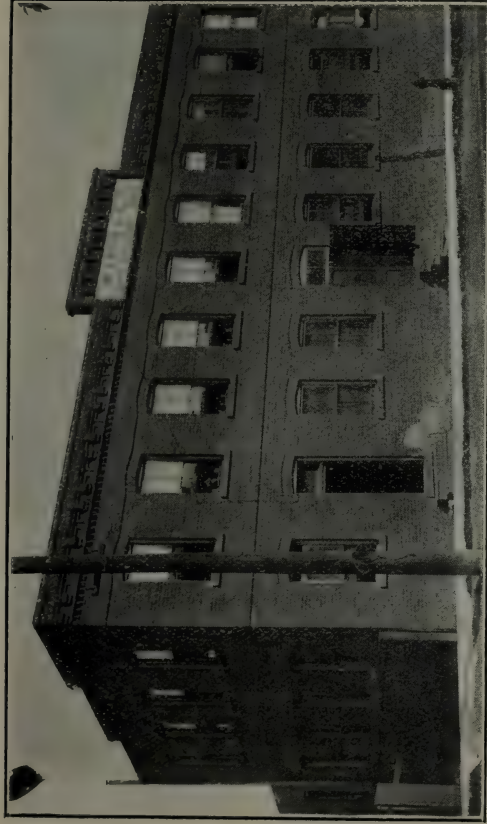


Metropolitan Bank—W. B. Clements, Manager



The Farmer's Bank—W. D. Paxton, Manager

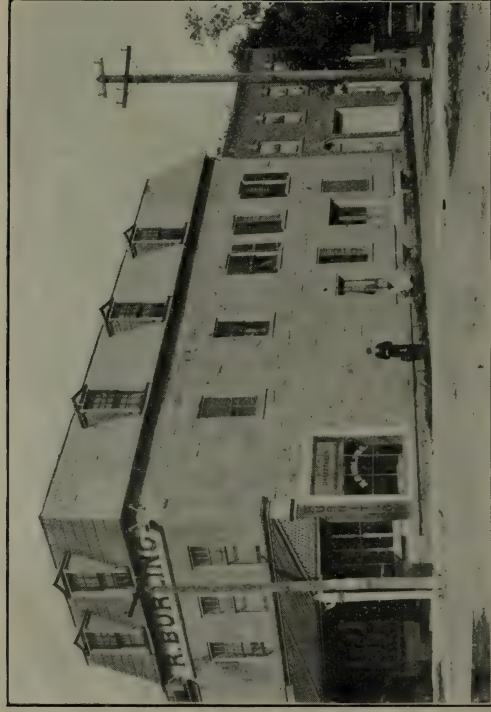




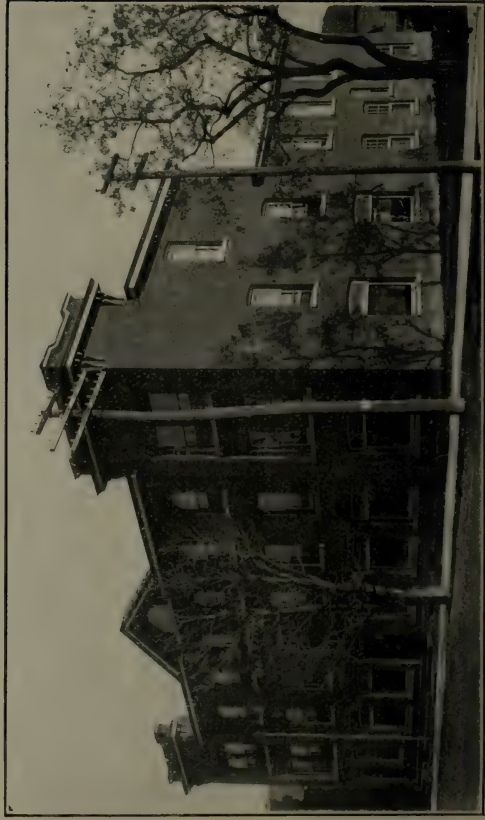
Winn & Co's. Shoe Factory



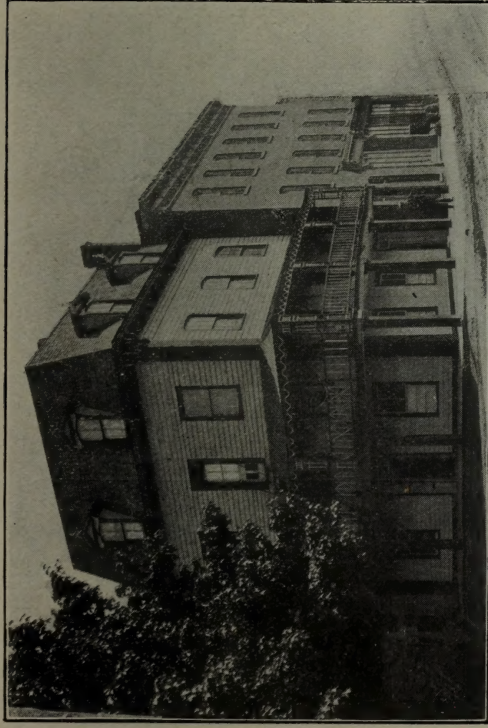
The Canada Carpet Co's Factory  
S . Syer, Proprietor



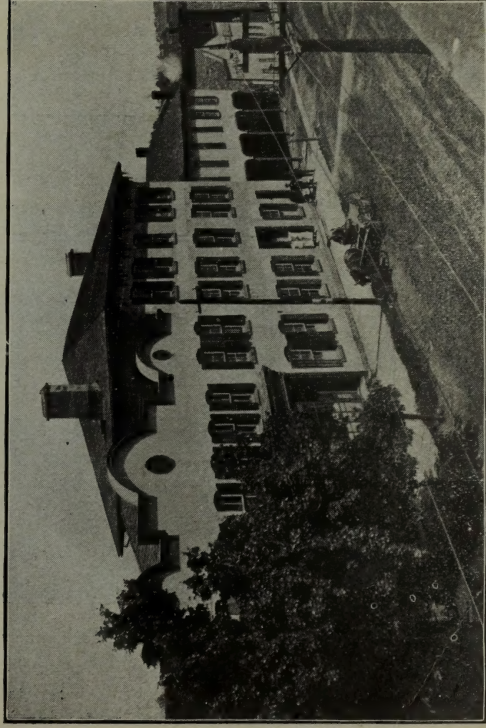
R. C. H. Burlings Block



The McGibbon House  
J. D. McGibbon, Proprietor



The Commercial Hotel  
John Kelley, Proprietor



The New Royal Hotel  
F. Martin, Proprietor





Residence of Greenlees Bros.  
Lumber Merchants





